



County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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SACHI A. HAMAI
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September 4, 2015

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To: Mayor Michael D. Antonovich
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Supervisor Sheila Kuehl
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From: Sachi A. Hamai
Interim Chief Executive Officer

SACRAMENTO UPDATE

Executive Summary

This memorandum contains reports on the following:

- **Change in Pursuit of County Position on Legislation**
 - **County-support-and-amend SB 762 (Wolk)** - related to a pilot program to allow counties to select a bidder, on the basis of best value, for construction projects in excess of \$1.0 million, was amended on August 31, 2015 to allow eight counties, including the County of Los Angeles, to participate in the pilot program. Therefore, unless otherwise directed by the Board, consistent with existing policy to support legislation to preserve and improve the County's ability to solicit and manage construction contracts and/or job order contracts, **the Sacramento advocates will remove the County's request for amendments and support SB 762.**
- **Status of County-Sponsored Legislation**
 - **County-co-sponsored SB 478 (Huff)** - related to an online system for receipt of child abuse reports, passed the Senate Floor on September 3, 2015, and it now proceeds to the Governor.
- **Status of County-Advocacy Legislation.** Updates on eight County-advocacy measures related to: 1) the Right to Try Act; 2) the Baldwin Hills Conservancy; 3) Los Angeles River Revitalization planning; 4) parking ratios and density

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bonuses; 4) greenhouse gas emission limits; 5) Integrated Regional Wastewater Management grants; 6) fire protection services contracts; 7) Los Angeles County sanitation districts; and 8) the Mentally Ill Offender Crime Reduction Program.

- **Status of Legislation of County Interest.** Updates on two measures of County interest related to local elections and the consolidation of elections.

Change in Pursuit of County Position

County-support-and-amend SB 762 (Wolk), which would establish a pilot program to allow counties to select a bidder, on the basis of best value, for construction projects in excess of \$1.0 million, was amended on August 31, 2015 to allow eight specific counties, including Los Angeles, to establish the best value pilot program proposed by this measure.

The Department of Public Works reports that a best value pilot program would allow the County to use procedures similar to the criteria and procedures established for pre-qualification of contractors bidding on major projects or proposing design-build projects. The Department also notes that the best value process would be beneficial for unique, more challenging projects such as dam reservoir cleanouts, dam modifications, and environmentally-sensitive projects.

Therefore, unless otherwise directed by the Board, consistent with existing policy to support legislation to preserve and improve the County's ability to solicit and manage construction contracts and or job order contracts, **the Sacramento advocates will remove our request for amendments and support SB 762.**

SB 762 is pending consideration on the Assembly Floor.

Status of County-Sponsored Legislation

County-co-sponsored SB 478 (Huff), as amended on August 27, 2015, would: 1) authorize a voluntary pilot program, until January 1, 2021, for up to 10 counties to allow specified mandated reporters to make initial reports of non-emergent child abuse or neglect to the Child Protection Agency through an online report, in lieu of telephonic reports; 2) require the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to administer the pilot program and consult with the County Welfare Directors Association (CWDA) and welfare agencies of individual counties to determine which counties may be involved in the program; 3) require participating counties to hire an evaluator to monitor

the program's implementation, and develop, in collaboration with CWDA and CDSS, outcome measures that determine its effectiveness; 4) require participating counties, on or before January 1, 2020, to report to the Legislature on the pilot program's effectiveness, and 5) authorize CDSS to conclude the pilot program prior to January 1, 2021, on a county-by-county basis, if the evaluation and monitoring indicate the program's implementation compromises the safety of children, among other provisions.

This measure passed the Senate Floor, in concurrence of the Assembly amendments, by a vote of 37 to 0 on September 3, 2015, and it now proceeds to the Governor.

Status of County-Advocacy Legislation

County-supported AB 159 (Calderon), which as amended on July 6, 2015, would establish the Right to Try Act which would make an investigational drug, biological product or device available for patients with an immediately life-threatening disease or condition, passed the Assembly Floor, in concurrence of the Senate amendments, by a vote of 76 to 2 on September 2, 2015. This measure now proceeds to the Governor.

County-supported AB 446 (Ridley-Thomas), which as introduced on February 23, 2015, would repeal the sunset date of the Baldwin Hills Conservancy Act, was amended on September 1, 2015. As amended, the bill would extend the operation of the Baldwin Hills Conservancy Act until January 1, 2026. AB 446 passed the Assembly Floor, in concurrence of the Senate amendments, by a vote of 67 to 0 on September 3, 2015. This measure now proceeds to the Governor.

County-supported AB 530 (Rendon), which as amended on June 1, 2015, would require the Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency to appoint, in coordination with the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, a local working group to develop a revitalization plan for the Lower Los Angeles River, was amended on August 31, 2015. As amended, the bill would require consultation with the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors to the extent that the Board wishes to consult. The amendments would also allow the Secretary of the Natural Resources agency to consider requests to participate in the working group from local agencies not specified as participants. AB 530 passed the Assembly Floor, in concurrence of the Senate amendments, by a vote of 74 to 0 on September 3, 2015. This measure now proceeds to the Governor.

County-opposed AB 744 (Chau), which as amended on August 18, 2015, would: 1) prohibit a local government from imposing a vehicular parking ratio in excess of 0.5 spaces per unit on certain affordable housing or senior housing developments that are located within one-half mile of a transit stop; 2) prohibit a city or county from requiring parking ratios greater than 0.3 spaces per unit for special needs housing

developments that are entirely composed of affordable housing units and are located within one-half mile of a transit stop; and 3) allow a city or county to impose a higher parking ratio that does not exceed the standard under Density Bonus Law if the local government makes findings that a higher parking ratio is needed, passed the Assembly Floor by a vote of 45 to 21 on September 2, 2015. This measure now proceeds to the Governor.

County-supported SB 208 (Lara), which as amended on June 1, 2015, would: 1) require a regional water management group, within 90 days of notice that a grant has been awarded, to provide the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) with a list of projects to be funded by the grant funds where the project proponent is a nonprofit organization or a disadvantaged community, or the project benefits a disadvantaged community; 2) require the DWR, within 60 days of receiving the project information, to provide an advanced payment of 50 percent of the grant award for those projects if the grant award is less than \$1.0 million; 3) require the advanced funds to be placed in a noninterest-bearing account until expended and spent within six months of receipt; and 4) require grant recipients to provide a quarterly accountability report to the DWR, passed the Assembly Floor by a vote of 79 to 0 on September 1, 2015. This measure now proceeds to the Governor.

County-opposed SB 239 (Hertzberg), which would require a public agency proposing new or extended fire protection services outside of its current service area to: 1) either enter into a written agreement with or provide written notice of the proposed contract to each affected public agency and recognized employee organization representing firefighters in the affected area prior to submitting the proposal to the local agency formation committee (LAFCO); and 2) require a public agency to submit a plan for extended services for fire protection to LAFCO for review and approval, was amended on August 31, 2015 and September 2, 2015.

As currently amended, SB 239 would require a public agency submitting an application to LAFCO to include a determination, supported by documentation, that the proposed fire protection contract would: 1) either on its own or in combination with other contracts or agreements, transfer responsibility for providing services in more than 25 percent of the area within the jurisdictional boundaries of any public agency affected by the contract or agreement; or 2) would change the employment status of more than 25 percent of the employees of any public agency affected by the contract or agreement. The most recent amendments would also make SB 239 contingent upon enactment of AB 402 (Dodd) which would establish a pilot program for the Napa and San Bernardino LAFCOs to authorize a city or district to extend services outside of their boundaries for purposes beyond responding to a threat to public health or safety.

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SB 239 retains provisions which would require a public agency to submit a plan for extended services for fire protection to LAFCO for review and approval, rather than allowing local elected officials to make policy decisions in response to local needs, service requirements and cost effectiveness. **Therefore, the Sacramento advocates will continue to oppose this bill.**

SB 239 is pending consideration on the Assembly Floor.

County-supported SB 485 (Hernandez), which as amended on August 27, 2015, would authorize sanitation districts in Los Angeles County to acquire, construct, operate, maintain, and furnish facilities for the diversion, management and treatment of stormwater and dry weather runoff, among other provisions, passed the Senate Floor by a vote of 40 to 0 on September 1, 2015. This measure now proceeds to the Governor.

County-supported SB 621 (Hertzberg), which as introduced on February 27, 2015, would expand the Mentally Ill Offender Crime Reduction Program to allow funding to be used for diversion programs that provide mental health and treatment services, passed the Assembly Floor by a vote of 80 to 0 on September 2, 2015. This measure now proceeds to the Governor.

Status of Legislation of County Interest

AB 254 (Hernández and Calderon), which as amended on June 1, 2015, would eliminate the established election dates in March and April for general law cities, school districts, community college districts, and special districts, passed the Senate Floor by a vote of 25 to 15 on September 2, 2015. This measure now proceeds to the Governor.

SB 415 (Hueso), which as amended on June 23, 2015, would prohibit a local election on a date other than the date of a statewide election, if holding a local election on an alternative date would result in a 25 percent or greater decrease in voter turnout, was signed by the Governor on September 1, 2015. This measure is Chapter 235, Statutes of 2015, and it becomes effective on January 1, 2018.

We will continue to keep you advised.

SAH:JJ:MR
VE:I:GEA:ma

c: All Department Heads
Legislative Strategist